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From: Higuchi, Dean
Sent: Thur 10/22/2015 11:00:51 PM
Subject: EPA News Release: U.S. EPA Awards \$123,161 to the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection to Retrofit School Buses

This will be issued today:

For Immediate Release: October 22, 2015

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U.S. EPA Awards \$123,161 to the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection to Retrofit School Buses

SAN FRANCISCO – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has awarded \$123,161 in Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) funding to the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection to fund local school districts to replace four school buses. The older replaced buses will be removed from service and permanently destroyed.

“By promoting clean diesel technologies, we can improve air quality, support green jobs, and fight global climate change,” said Jared Blumenfeld, Regional Administrator for EPA’s Pacific Southwest Office. “Public-private partnerships like the West Coast Collaborative are leading the way on reducing harmful diesel emissions.”

The DERA program is administered by EPA’s West Coast Collaborative, a clean air partnership comprised of the Pacific Southwest and Pacific Northwest Regions, which leverages public and private funds to reduce emissions from the most polluting diesel sources in impacted communities. Along the West Coast, public and private partners from Alaska, American Samoa, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon and Washington received over \$5.4 million in DERA grant funding to retrofit and replace old, polluting diesel vehicles and equipment, including school buses, trucks, agriculture and port equipment, and generators.

This funding is part of U.S. EPA’s DERA fiscal year 2015 allocation which include engine replacements, idle reduction and retrofit technologies to clean up a variety of older diesel engines. Since 2008, the DERA program has awarded more than 700 grants across the country in 600 communities. These projects have reduced emissions from more than 60,000 engines.

Reducing particulate matter emissions also reduces black carbon, which influences climate by directly absorbing light, reducing the reflectivity (“albedo”) of snow and ice through deposition, and interacting with clouds.

Today’s selected projects fund cleaner diesel engines that operate in economically disadvantaged communities whose residents suffer from higher-than-average instances of asthma, heart, and lung disease.

To learn more about all of this year’s West Coast Collaborative DERA projects, visit: <http://www.westcoastcollaborative.org>

For more information about EPA’s National Clean Diesel campaign and the awarded DERA projects nationally, visit www.epa.gov/cleandiesel.

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Thanks!

Dean Higuchi

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